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THEDWASTRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1956.



ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Major T. L. Dwyer (Chairman) | Mr. R. H. Davies (Woodbridge) |
| Rev. S. R. Weston (Vicar) | Mr. R. J. Davies (Great Ousefield) |
| Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) | Mr. R. J. Page (Dorset) |
| Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) | Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) |
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| Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) | Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) |
| Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) | Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) |

Mr. J. J. Jones (Woodbridge) - Chairman of the Council (Retired June 1957)

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of
Thedwastre in the County of West Suffolk for the year
ending 31st December, 1956.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Thedwastre.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.
November 1957.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration my
nineteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being that for
the year ended 31st December, 1956.

I would acknowledge my indebtedness to my colleagues, Mr. A. Owen,
(now promoted) Clerk of the Council, and Mr. Wyatt, Public Health
Inspector, for their assistance in compiling this report.
My thanks are also due to Dr. D. A. McCracken, County Medical Officer
of Health, West Suffolk, for his co-operation and counsel throughout
the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical. One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Durham),
Cert.Mental Deficiency and Allied Subjects (London),
appointed 1st July, 1938.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but
holds in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket U.D.C.	}	Appointed 1st July, 1936.
Mildenhall R.D.C.		
Thingoe R.D.C.		
Cosford R.D.C.		Appointed 1st Feby., 1937.

(b) Others.

One Public Health Inspector,

OSWALD J. WYATT, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Meat Cert.R.S.I.
Appointed June 2nd, 1930.
Mr. Wyatt is also Surveyor to the Council.

One Additional Public Health Inspector,

R. BANKS, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A., Meat Cert.R.S.I.
Appointed 26th April, 1956.

THEDWASTRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL 1956.

Major T.L.Dearburgh (Thurston) - Chairman of the Council.
Rev.F.E.Weston-Wait (Stowlangtoft) - Vice-Chairman.

Mr.E.J.Aves (Hinderclay)	Mrs.K.M.Howlett (Woolpit)
Mr.G.Battisto (Walsham-le-Willows)	Mr.H.T.Levesley (Great Ashfield)
Mr.T.F.Blackwell (Langham)	Mr.A.H.S.Page (Beyton)
Mr.R.A.Bloom (Norton)	Mr.J.W.J.Palmer (Elmswell)
Mr.C.W.Crosse (Elmswell)	Mr.P.C.Romans (Felsham)
Capt.R.H.Errington (Testock)	Lt.Col.R.C.Rome (Woolpit)
Mr.N.G.Etheridge (Rattlesden)	Mr.R.Ross (Hunston)
Mr.S.P.Flowerdew (Rickinghall Inferior)	Mr.W.N.Valentine (Hessett)
Mr.J.W.E.Granger (Walsham-le-Willows)	Mrs.L.D.Walmsley (Gedding)
Major T. Hails (Badwell Ash)	Mr.F.J.Watson (Wattisfield)
Capt.M.F.Horne (Drinkstone)	

MR. F. A. W. WILDEN - CLERK OF THE COUNCIL (Retired June 1957).

SECTION A.
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL STATISTICS.	Area	..	..	..	34,126 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population.	1956.	(1955)	(1954)		
	8,930	(8,880)	(8,860)		
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	2,847	(2,813)	(2,849)		
Rateable Value	£55,458	(£33,173)	(£32,401)		
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£212	(£131)	(£130)		

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	Total.			Male.			Female.		
	1956	(1955)	(1954)	1956	(1955)	(1954)	1956	(1955)	(1954)
ive Births.									
egitimate	158	(151)	(121)	86	(80)	(68)	72	(71)	(53)
llegitimate	8	(5)	(7)	4	(4)	(2)	4	(1)	(5)
Stillbirths.									
egitimate	2	(5)	(3)	1	(2)	(2)	1	(3)	(1)
llegitimate	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)
Deaths.	105	(115)	(121)	57	(59)	(68)	48	(56)	(53)
Deaths under 1 year.	5	(4)	(9)	3	(3)	(6)	2	(1)	(3)

	Thedwastre.			England & Wales.		
	1956	(1955)	(1954)	1956	(1955)	(1954)
Birth Rate. (Live Births per 1000 population).	18.6	(17.6)	(14.4)	15.7	(15.0)	(15.2)
Comparability Factor (Births) Thedwastre	1.14	(1.14)	(1.14)			
The Corrected Birth Rate	21.2	(20.0)	(16.5)			
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 (Live & Still) Births.	11.9	(31.1)	(22.9)	23.0	(23.1)	(23.5)
Death Rate per 1000 population	11.8	(13.0)	(13.7)	11.7	(11.7)	(11.3)
Comparability Factor (Deaths)	0.90	(0.90)	(0.83)			
Corrected Death Rate	10.6	(10.7)	(11.3)			
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year. All infants per 1000 live births.	30.1	(25.6)	(70.3)	23.8	(24.9)	(25.4)
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births.	31.6	(26.5)	(74.4)			
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)			

The 5 deaths of infants under one year of age were all of legitimate infants and all died in the first four weeks of age, save one female:-

Male, 9 days.	Meningitis. Congenital meningocele.
Male, 2 days.	Pulmonary Atelectasis.
Male, 1 day.	Prematurity.
Female, 3 months.	Interstitial pneumonitis.
Female, 4 hours.	Congestive heart failure, Erythroblastosis foetalis.

Three other deaths took place in the nonage:- They were those of a Male, 15 months, (Septicaemia, purulent rhinitis) and of two youths aged 17 years and 19 years, (each of whose motor cycle ran into a lorry). Reproach should be constant to the general indifference to and acceptance of the fact, that one person in ten is now expected in their life to be a serious road casualty.

79 (75%) of the 105 total number of deaths of Thedwastre residents in 1956 occurred at age 65 years or over. Of these 62 (59% of the total number) were at age 75 or over - 4 were over 90 years of age.

The marked increase in Rateable Value (67%) and the Penny Rate Product (62%) over those of 1955 were due to the new assessments which came into use in April 1956.

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

As in last year's report the deaths have been classified to conform with implementation of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.																	
M = Male. F = Female.		Under 1 year.		1 to 4 years.		5 to 14 years.		15 to 24 years.		25 to 44 years.		45 to 64 years.		65 to 74 years.		75 and over.		TOTAL = Registrar's General's figures.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, Other.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	3	-
1. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1
2. Malignant neoplasm, Breast.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
3. Malignant neoplasm, Uterus.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	1	2	4	8	6
5. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Diabetes.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Vascular lesions of nervous system.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	3	3	4
8. Coronary disease, angina.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	4	4	8	6
9. Hypertension with heart disease.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	2	2
10. Other Heart Disease.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	7	9
1. Other circulatory disease.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2
2. Influenza.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Pneumonia.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	3	1
4. Bronchitis.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
5. Other diseases of respiratory system.		-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
6. Ulcer of Stomach & duodenum.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2
7. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Nephritis and Nephrosis.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Hyperplasia of Prostate		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
10. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1. Congenital mal-formations.		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
2. Other defined & ill-defined diseases.		2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	1	3	4	8	9
3. Motor vehicle accidents		-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-
4. All other accidents.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	2	3
5. Suicide.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Homicide & operations of war.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	Males.	3	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	9	-	8	-	31	-	57	-
	Females	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	9	-	31	-	48

THE DWASTRE.

	1956.	Annual Average (Decade (1946-1955.))	Annual Average (Decade (1936-1945.))
Rateable Value.	£55,458	£29,501	£24,986
Product of Penny Rate.	£212	£121	£104
Number of Inhabited Houses.	2,847	2,748	2,493
Registrar General's estimate of Population.	8,930	8,630	8,345
Total Deaths.	105	112	111
Deaths under One Year.	5	4.5	5
	Nil	0.5	0.7
Births.	158	141	121
	8	11	9
Stillbirths.	2	3.6	4.7
	Nil	0.3	0.2

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SECTION B.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem.

Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar, efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services since July 1953 have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of Dr. D. A. McCracken, the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The West Suffolk County Council hold Infant Welfare Clinics in Thedwastre at three centres:-

Elmswell, Dining Hall, Elmswell School.	1st Thursday in each month.
Rickingham, Village Hall.	2nd Thursday in each month.
Badwell Ash, Church Hall.	4th Tuesday in each month.

(e) HOSPITALS. The use of hospitals by Thedwastre residents is indicated by the following information with regard to live births and deaths.

Of the 166 Live Births, 72 (43%) took place at the resident's home in Thedwastre - most of the other 94 births took place in hospital at Bury St. Edmunds.

56 (53%) of the 105 deaths of Thedwastre Residents in 1956 occurred at their own homes in Thedwastre. Of the remaining 49 there were 45 (43%) in hospitals as follows:-

27 Bury St. Edmunds, West Suffolk General Hospital.
13 " " " St. Mary's Hospital.
4 Sudbury, Walnuttree Hospital.
1 Ipswich, East Suffolk Hospital.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. By the end of 1956 the Council's Comprehensive Scheme reached the position envisaged when first presented - the last length of main originally proposed in the Comprehensive Scheme was laid in December, making the total length of mains in our District 87.9 miles.

The number of persons who have benefitted throughout the whole District is indicated by the following figures which show the percentage of houses at the end of 1956 making use of mains supply - the percentage had grown to 60% since 1950, when it was only 1%. A further illustration, indicating the position in each parish, is provided by the table on the following page:-

MAINS WATER - THEDWASTRE.

YEAR.	PIPED SUPPLY TO HOUSE.		USING STANDPIPE WITHIN 200 FEET.	
	Number.	%	Number.	%
1956.	1,385	48%	310	11%
1955.	1,167	41%	253	9%
1954.	717	25%	153	5%
1953.	315	11%	60	2%
1952.	196	7%	42	1%
1951.	79	3%	12	-
Prior to 1951.	20	1%	12	-

Parish.	Total Houses in Parish	Houses in Parish with a piped water supply into the house by the end of the year. (Number in brackets = those supplied by standpipe).										Prior to 1951	In House.	(Stand-pipe)	Total Percentage.
		1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951								
Ashfield, Great.	100	35 (16)	27 (10)	19 (10)	19 (8)	18 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	38%	16%	54%				
Badwell Ash.	114	44 (10)	37 (7)	13 (7)	- (1)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	39%	9%	47%				
Boyton.	143	77 (20)	34 (10)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	54%	14%	68%				
Drinkstone.	126	60 (9)	58 (8)	42 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	48%	7%	55%				
Elmswell.	344	216 (32)	213 (32)	147 (26)	65 (13)	58 (9)	10 (-)	- (-)	63%	9%	72%				
Felsham.	100	68 (13)	67 (13)	23 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	68%	13%	81%				
Gedding.	47	26 (3)	26 (2)	18 (1)	15 (1)	9 (1)	4 (-)	- (-)	55%	6%	62%				
Hessett.	94	38 (17)	29 (16)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	40%	13%	59%				
Hinderclay.	65	3 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	5%	12%	17%				
Hunston.	29	13 (6)	7 (5)	6 (5)	5 (5)	5 (5)	1 (-)	- (-)	45%	21%	56%				
Langham.	32	4 (8)	4 (8)	- (7)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	13%	25%	38%				
Norton.	212	133 (21)	125 (21)	25 (9)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	63%	10%	73%				
Rattlesden.	239	118 (31)	116 (31)	110 (25)	24 (-)	24 (-)	14 (-)	- (-)	49%	13%	62%				
Rickingham.	98	45 (13)	38 (12)	38 (12)	38 (12)	20 (12)	20 (12)	20 (12)	46%	13%	59%				
Stowlangtoft.	62	30 (3)	30 (3)	24 (3)	5 (2)	4 (2)	- (-)	- (-)	48%	5%	53%				
Thurston.	251	61 (12)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	24%	5%	29%				
Tostock.	102	38 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	37%	8%	45%				
Walsham-le-Willows.	263	128 (29)	127 (29)	104 (21)	40 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	49%	11%	60%				
Wattisfield.	122	53 (11)	53 (11)	39 (6)	35 (6)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	43%	9%	52%				
Woolpit.	304	192 (40)	176 (35)	109 (17)	69 (4)	58 (4)	30 (-)	- (-)	63%	13%	75%				
	2,847	1,385 (310)	1,167 (253)	717 (153)	315 (60)	196 (42)	79 (12)	20 (12)	49%	11%	60%				

* These houses served from the mains of our neighbouring authority, Hartismere R.D.C.

A further indication of the increased benefits derived by the Thedwastre residents due to the growth of the Comprehensive Scheme is obtained by recording that the amounts of water supplied to the Thedwastre R.D.C. from the Comprehensive Scheme have been:-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Annual Total.</u>	<u>Daily Average.</u>
1952	4,127,000 gallons	11,310 gallons
1953	6,680,000 "	18,330 "
1954	19,821,000 "	54,280 "
1955	27,344,000 "	74,920 "
1956	47,241,000 "	129,430 "

The following tables indicate the monthly amount of water supplied by the Comprehensive Scheme to Thedwastre during 1955 and 1956:-

Gallons of Water supplied each month to Thedwastre during 1955.

January	1,996,000 gallons
February	1,742,000 "
March	2,149,000 "
April	1,463,000 "
May	2,790,000 "
June	2,305,000 "
July	3,520,000 "
August	2,046,000 "
September	2,175,000 "
October	3,018,000 "
November	2,465,000 "
December	1,675,000 "

Gallons of Water supplied each month to Thedwastre during 1956.

January	2,750,000 gallons
February	3,229,000 "
March	2,521,000 "
April	3,512,000 "
May	5,319,000 "
June	3,184,000 "
July	4,963,000 "
August	3,361,000 "
September	4,304,000 "
October	4,560,000 "
November	4,852,000 "
December	4,686,000 "

Water Analyses. Chemical Analyses from pumping stations were as follows:-

Site.	Bact.	Chemical (parts per 100,000)					pH
		Cl ₂	O ₂	Nitrate	Nitrite	Hardness.	
Ixworth.	Satis.	4.45	0.0627	Absent	Absent	28.4	7.1
Risby.	Satis.	2.15	0.0409	0.50	Absent	27.4	7.1
Rushbrooke.	Satis.	2.35	0.0343	0.60	Absent	28.2	7.1

106 Bacteriological Analyses of the water taken during 1956 as supplied from Thingoe sources were all satisfactory.

In Thedwastre this water was further analysed to ensure that four new standpipes were adequately flushed before use - eight doubtful results were reported before satisfactory samples were obtained from all four standpipes

Three samples taken to check new taps were all satisfactory.

In addition to the 15 samples taken from the mains supply there were 19 samples taken from private wells.

The position with regard to private wells was far from satisfactory. Only two of 19 samples taken from such sources were satisfactory - one of these was from a private bore well - the remaining 17 samples were very heavily polluted with B.Coli, including the faecal type. The owners of these wells were advised to connect to the mains supply.

Fortunately in the two cases where samples from private wells were submitted to chemical analysis to check the presence of nitrate (in order that Methaemoglobinaemia should not develop in infants relying on made-up feeds) a "safe" report was obtained in each case.

Carting of Water. In September 1956 the advent of the mains water supply allowed discontinuation of the cartage of water to Badwell Ash (cottages at the Green), Hunston (Houses at Hunston Green) and Thurston (Houses at Great Green, new houses Barton Road and the Hutments). Since that date water has only had to be carted to one isolated house at Rickingham.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The advent of the water supply has emphasised the great need for adequate sewers and small sewerage schemes throughout the entire district.

The cesspools, particularly on the Council's Housing Sites, become full to overflowing within a few days. To combat this the two men engaged, under the supervision of Mr. Wyatt, on the Council's cesspool emptier are working overtime every day and are making a very meritorious attempt to deal with the position.

The cesspool emptier (a Yorkshire Karrier 750 gallon cesspool emptier, purchased in 1952) is engaged in the emptying of cesspools throughout the District. The service is available to any private house in the District on payment of 25/- for the first load and 15/- for each subsequent load - the service is free to tenants of the Council houses.

The Vehicle travelled 11,669 miles in 1956, (the 1955 figure was 8,838 miles), and the total number of cesspools emptied in the District during 1956 was 866, made up as follows:-

	Cesspools Emptied.			
	1956.	1955.		
Council Houses	528 (1,324 loads)	532 (1,299 loads)		
Private houses within the Area	165 (236 loads)	353 (849 loads)		
Private houses outside the Area	22 -	19 (30 loads)		
Rannock's Egg Packing Station	149 (650 loads)	-		
Schools	2 (11 loads)	-		

House Cesspool Clearance Thedwastre R.D. from 1st January, 1956, to 31st December, 1956.

Name of Village.	COUNCIL HOUSES.		PRIVATE HOUSES.		TOTAL.	
	Cesspools Emptied.	Loads.	Cesspools Emptied.	Loads.	Cesspools Emptied.	Loads.
Ashfield Magna.	21	39	6	11	27	50
Beyton.	8	10	12	13	20	23
Badwell Ash.	-	-	4	4	4	4
Drinkstone.	17	34	5	6	22	40
Elmswell.	116	240	27	35	143	275
Felsham.	7	19	6	10	13	29
Gedding.	1	2	4	8	5	10
Hessett.	25	54	2	5	27	59
Hinderclay.	23	46	3	3	26	49
Hunston.	-	-	2	2	2	2
Langham.	-	-	1	2	1	2
Norton.	29	87	9	18	38	105
Rattlesden.	86	287	14	17	100	304
Rickingham.	-	-	6	7	6	7
Stowlangtoft.	26	26	2	5	28	31
Thurston.	30	86	22	38	52	124
Tostock.	3	6	5	7	8	13
Walsham-le-Willows.	24	42	22	30	46	72
Wattisfield.	26	104	-	-	26	104
Woolpit.	86	242	13	15	99	257
Beyton S.M. School.					1	7
Rattlesden S.M. School.					1	4
Rannocks Egg Packing Station (Elmswell).					149	650
1956 Totals	528	1,324	165	236	844	2,221
1955 Totals	532	1,299	353	849	885	2,148

The Council is by no means satisfied to allow the District to continue without public sewerage schemes - their scheme proposed for Rattlesden has now received Ministry approval, the schemes for Elmswell and Woolpit are under Ministry consideration. Rickingham Inferior in our District is to be embraced in the scheme for Rickingham Superior to be prepared by the Hartismere R.D.C.

The Council have instructed their consulting engineers, Messrs. Lemon and Blizzard, to prepare schemes for Beyton, Drinkstone, Felsham, Gedding, Hessett, Norton, Tostock, Walsham-le-Willows and Wattisfield. This preliminary work awaits improvement in the National position with regard to permissible capital expenditure, to allow of speedy progress to meet a well established need.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. There is no river in the Thedwastre District, but the Council have employed casual labour in order to cleanse the water-course in the street at Walsham-le-Willows.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. All Post-war Houses in Thedwastre have been provided with cesspool drainage for sink and bath water -- at 32 houses at Woolpit, 8 at Stowlangtoft and 4 at Tostock. There was also provision for W.C. drainage. The remainder of the working-class houses throughout the District have pail closets, the emptying of which is the responsibility of the tenant.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. A fortnightly collection of household refuse takes place every two weeks from all houses throughout the whole of the District, with the exception of a very few isolated dwellings from which a monthly collection is made. Although generally the service provided is a "kerb-side" collection, exception is made and a "back-door" collection is provided from those houses occupied by aged or infirm or where women are living alone.

The vehicle in use since 1948, a 4 ton 15 Cub.yard Bedford from Messrs. Glover, Webb & Liversedge, Ltd., is of the moveable floor type and continues to give good service.

The Council's dustbin service scheme has proved very successful; it is being copied by other Authorities in the County.

The collection is made by a driver and two loaders, all of whom take a great interest in their work and execute it in a very satisfactory manner.

Refuse tips are at Hall Farm, Langham, Warren Lane, Elmswell and Maltings Farm, Walsham-le-Willows; there are also small pits at Ixworth Road, Norton and at Tostock.

All tips are frequently visited by the Rodent Operator, Mr.A.C.Denny, who keeps down both rats and flies. A system of controlled tipping is in being.

In 1956 the refuse vehicle travelled 3,326 miles and removed 1,007 loads of refuse; figures which can be compared with those of 1955, when 3,118 miles and 899 loads were recorded

The salvage scheme for paper and iron was continued throughout 1956, the total value of the salvage showing an increase:-

Weight.	<u>Paper.</u>	Value.	Weight.	<u>Iron.</u>	Value.	Total Value of Salvage.
1956.	25tons.4cwts.	£132.9.5.	6tons.3cwts.2qrs.	£31.9.11.		£163.19.4.
1955.	22tons.5cwts.1qr.	£119.8.11.	8tons.11cwts.1qr.	£37.9.5.		£156.18.4.
1954.	3tons.15cwts.	£13.6.0.	3tons.19cwts.	£15.11.4.		£28.17.4.
1953.	5tons.2cwts.	£16.1.6.	2tons.1cwt.	£8.10.8.		£24.12.2.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following table records the number of inspections carried out by Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Banks:-

Number of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	403
Visits to Hutments and Requisitioned Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	600
Inspections of Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	74
Bakehouse Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Inspection of Slaughter Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Inspection of Butchers premises and Bacon Factory	..	..	..	..	..	..	467
Inspection of Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
Waterworks visits made (Mains)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,632
Water Samples: Council's Supply			15	}	..	..	34
Private Wells			19		..	..
Inspection of Drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	129
Rodent Control Visits by Sanitary Inspectors	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Building Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,015
Owners interviewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Inspections made regarding complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Inspections of camping sites, caravans, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	170

Factory Act, 1937. Inspections for purposes of Provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	26	38	1	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	31	40	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority * (excluding out-workers premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	57	78	1	Nil

* i.e. Electrical Stations (Sections 103 (1)). Institutions, (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

OUTWORK. Sections 110 & 111. No notification of outwork was received.

Premises classified as Factories in Thedwastre comprise:-

5 Agricultural Engineering Works.	17 Builders Yards.
1 Bacon Factory.	1 Egg Depot.
6 Boot Repairers.	4 Flour Mills.
2 Fruit Packing Stations.	1 Printing Works.
10 Garages.	2 Smithies.
1 Gate Manufacturer.	1 Tailor.
1 Grain Cleaning.	1 Wheelwright.
1 Meal Mixing.	2 Wireless Repairers.
1 Pottery.	

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. 57 inspections, of the ventilation and sanitary accommodation provisions, under the Shop Act, 1934, were made. From these inspections no action was required in any case.

The advent of a piped water supply, to be followed in the future by sewage disposal schemes, will allow considerable improvements to be effected in shops and offices throught our District.

The following are the numbers of shops in our District:-

13 shops not associated with food:-

Boot Repairers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bicycle Repairers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Garages	..	..	..	..	..	7

60 shops associated with food:-

Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	6
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	44
Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	4
Milk Shops	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fried Fish & Chip Shops	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	2

30 Public Houses and 1 Off Licence.

(v) CAMPING SITES.

14 caravans, housing in all approximately 22 persons, are licensed within our District. They are spread over eleven sites, as in the main they are single caravans housing agricultural workers temporarily, until the occupant can be found housing accommodation by the farmer concerned, or they may be occupied temporarily by person near the site on which they are having a house built for themselves.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are but two factories with factory chimneys in Thedwastre. These are the Bacon Factory, Elmswell and the Pottery at Wattisfield. As in previous years no smoke nuisance arose from these factories.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no swimming baths in the District. The swimming baths at Bury St. Edmunds and Stowmarket are available at reasonable distance to many of our inhabitants.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No case of bed bug infestation was either reported or discovered during 1956, or in any year covered by my reports which extend from 1938.

(ix) RODENT CONTROL.

The services of Mr. A. C. Denny, the Rodent Operator, were retained during 1956. Regular and systematic survey of all properties within the District has continued, employing, so far as practicable, block treatment. All 577 infested properties have received treatment. Regular attention was paid to refuse tips to keep them free from infestation. Free treatment was given to houses, but a charge of 5/6d. per hour was made for business premises, this charge including the provision of all materials.

The following is a summary of the work done:-

Number of Premises Visited	..	..	..	..	3,071
Number of Premises Infested	..	..	..	..	577
Number of Premises Baited	..	..	..	..	577
Number of Rats' Bodies Picked up	..	..	..	..	2,153
Estimated Number of Rats Destroyed		..	..		8,612

4. SCHOOLS. Use is made of the mains water supply at the schools at Elmswell, Rickingham, Stowlangtoft, Walsham-le-Willows, Wattisfield, Woolpit, Norton and Drinkstone. Modern sewage disposal methods exist at the schools at Elmswell, Rattlesden and Beyton (Modern School).

SECTION D.
H O U S I N G

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). (Including Council houses)	408
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	490
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	98
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. (Including Council Houses).	41
2. <u>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.</u>	
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers (including Council houses)	27
3. <u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
<u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
<u>Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which	
(a) Demolition Orders were made	2
(b) Undertakings accepted not to re-let for human habitation	10
(c) Undertakings cancelled upon completion of work	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil
<u>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	5
(2) Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders.	4

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year Nil
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein Nil
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein Nil
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 3
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 3
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 21
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. Nil

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population in 1956 was 8,930 persons - the number of inhabited houses at the end of the year according to the Rate Book was 2,847 - an average of 3.14 persons per house throughout the District. New houses provided in the post-war years have been:-

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	Total.
Private Houses.	5	16	10	7	8	3	4	15	21	28	23	140
Council Houses.	18	37	47	60	26	18	22	24	40	13	44	349
Total:	23	53	57	67	34	21	26	39	61	42	67	430

The following table indicates the work of general repair and maintenance of existing houses in connection with private dwelling houses. The table, however, does not include repairs to Council houses, hutments or requisitioned houses which are effected by direct labour under the direction of the Housing Supervisor, Mr. Cushing.

Classified List of Housing Defects Abated during the year in Private Dwelling Houses.

Roof repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Dampness remedied ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Wall plaster repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Ceilings repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Ext. Walls repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Chimneys repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Windows repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Closets repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Stairs repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Fireplaces repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Floors repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Coppers repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Drains repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Water services repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Doors repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Light & Ventilation improved ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Other repairs ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sinks provided ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

The table on the following page indicates the provision of Council houses in Thedwastre.

To the 331 Pre-War and 4 War-time built Council houses a further 349 Council houses have been built in the post-war years.

In 1955 the number built, 13, was the least completed in any post-war year - the figure of 40 for 1956 shows a gratifying increase.

Improvement Grants approved by the Council, to assist in the improvement and reconditioning of existing dwellings within the Rural District were:-

	Number.	Amount of Grant
During 1956	18	£3,335
" 1955	15	£3,703
" 1954	10	£2,032

Under the Housing Act, 1949, the Council approved loans to allow inhabitants to purchase their own houses, as follows:-

1956	7	£7,005
1955	8	£15,405
1954	6	£6,725

	Houses Total in Parish.	C O U N C I L H O U S E S .										W A R .					HOUSES IN PARISH.	
		Total.	Pre-War.	War- Time.	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	T	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956		
Ashfield, Great.	100	26	16	2				3									26%	
Badwell Ash.	114	23	19		4												20%	
Dayton.	143	46	20			2		8	6			4		6			32%	
Drinkstone.	126	24	10	2		3						4					19%	
Elmswell.	344	96	55		4	9	7						4	16	1		28%	
Felsham.	100	23	10			8		4						6			28%	
Goddington.	47	13	10					6					2				38%	
Hessett.	94	32	12					2	10				6			2	34%	
Hinderclay.	65	17	7					4				4				2	26%	
Hunston.	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	
Langham.	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	
Norton.	212	65	33				12	10						4		6	31%	
Rattlesden.	239	40	13				4	6				6				6	17%	
Rickingham.	93	22	2			3		4					4			4	22%	
Stowlangtoft.	62	14	6											3			23%	
Thurston.	251	39	17				12			6		4					16%	
Tostock.	102	24	14				2	2	2							4	24%	
Walsham.	263	56	33					6	3				4				21%	
Wattisfield.	122	23	13				10										23%	
Woolpit.	307	36	26		10	2				12			4		12	20	28%	
	2,347	684	351	4	13	37	47	60	26	13	22	24	40	40	13	44	24%	

SECTION E.
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY. The duties of our Authority are curtailed to the surveillance of milk in distribution from dairies other than producer retail dairies. The number of retailers in the District was 6. The following licences were issued (supplementary licences are issued to those whose premises are not in our District):-

	Tuberculin Tested.		Pasteurised.		Sterilised.
	Dealer.	Supple- mentary.	Dealer.	Supple- mentary.	Supplementary.
Glass, Rattlesden.	1		1		
Palmer, Wattisfield.	1		1		
Co-op, Stowmarket.		1		1	1
Erith, Redgrave.		1		1	
Hicks, Ixworth.		1		1	
Thurlow, Bury St. Edmunds.				1	
	2	3	2	4	1

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. Of the eight butchers in the District, six obtain their meat from Bury St. Edmunds, one from Stowmarket and the other from Hartismere. Consequently, the only killings in the District during 1956 were carried out at the Bacon Factory at Elmswell.

The number of pigs killed and inspected during 1956 was 81,540.
The figure during 1955 was 90,209.

Number of Bacon Pigs	..	..	..	..	77,160
Number of Pork Pigs	..	..	..	..	4,213
Number of Pigs condemned	..	..	..	..	167
Number of Pigs killed	..	..	..	..	81,373
Number of Pigs inspected	..	..	..	..	81,373

All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.

Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	135
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	2,580
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci				3.3%

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	32
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned				2,322
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	..	..	..	2.9%

Cysticercosis. Nil

In addition to the 166 whole carcasses condemned, there were also condemned:-

2,322 Heads	{	weighing	30,186	lbs.}
2,883 Plucks	{	"	20,181	"}
2,580 Kidneys	{	"	645	"}
1,136 Intestines.				

The Causes of Condemnation.

Abscessed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Arthritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Arthritis and Fevered	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Cramp and Emaciation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dead on Arrival	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Dead in Pen	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dropsied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Emaciated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hydraemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fevered	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Fevered and Jaundiced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fevered and Abscessed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Fevered and Dropsical	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fevered and Cramp	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Jaundiced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Leukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Moribund	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Peritonitis and Fevered	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Peritonitis and Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Peritonitis and Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pleurisy and Abscessed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Putrification	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pyæmia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Ruptured	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Septicaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Septicaemia and Pyæmia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	135
								32
							Total:	<u>167</u>

Other Foodstuffs Voluntarily Surrendered as being Unfit for Human Consumption.

Pink Salmon	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 ozs.
Minced Meat	..	..	..	..	..	..	80 lbs.
Beef (1 leg)	..	..	..	..	..	..	66 lbs.
Luncheon Meat	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 lbs. 7 ozs.

SECTION F.
PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year 1956. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Disease Hospital.

	Whooping Cough.		Measles.		Pneumonia	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Grand Total: M. F. 17 7 10 Totals:	1	2	6	7	-	1
Under 1 year	-	-	1	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 years	1	-	-	-	-	-
3 years	-	1	-	2	-	-
4 years	-	-	1	-	-	-
5 to 9 years	-	1	4	4	-	-
10 to 14 years	-	-	-	1	-	-
15 to 24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 44 years	-	-	-	-	-	1
45 to 64 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total for Year 1956	3		13		1	
Annual Average 1955 to 1946	11		47		2	
Annual Average 1945 to 1936	47		46		2	

The above figures show that there was no undue incidence of Infectious Disease in Thedwastre during 1956.

NEW CASES.

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality.

	1956.	1955.	1954.	1953.	1952.	1951.	1950.
Pulmonary	4	2	1	1	-	4	11
Non-Pulmonary	2	1	-	1	2	1	5

Ages of Cases notified in 1956:-

Pulmonary, Males, 9, 62 & 65 years.
Female, 22 years.

Other Tuberculosis, Male, 49 years.
Female, 12 years.

MORTALITY. There were no Tuberculosis deaths during 1956 registered locally.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1.Cases at commencement 1956.	9	10	4	8	13	18
2.Notified first in 1956.	3	1	1	1	4	2
3.Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.Added by Transfers.	-	2	-	-	-	2
5.Cases removed from Register.	1	3	-	-	1	3
6.Remaining at end of 1956.	11	10	5	9	16	19

THE DISEASES NOTIFIABLE IN THE DISTRICT (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever.	Measles	Whooping Cough.	Erysipelas.	Infective Hepatitis	Acute Polio-myelitis.	Food Poisoning.	Meningococcal Meningitis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Paratyphoid Fevers.	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Total Cases
1936.	Nil	1	-	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	2
1937.	Nil	11	-	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	15
1938.	Nil	2	-	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	4
1939.	2	5	-	23	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	31
1940.	Nil	71	34	17	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	125
1941.	2	23	259	126	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	413
1942.	Nil	34	7	56	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	98
1943.	1	9	71	19	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	100
1944.	1	28	14	49	Nil	51	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	147
1945.	Nil	28	78	40	1	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	2	153
1946.	1	2	30	12	Nil	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	1	9	62
1947.	Nil	4	84	6	1	1	1	Nil	Nil	1	14	1	Nil	113
1948.	Nil	4	78	23	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	105
1949.	Nil	4	8	6	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	23
1950.	Nil	16	161	5	Nil	20	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	205
1951.	Nil	1	5	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	10
1952.	Nil	Nil	16	34	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	52
1953.	Nil	Nil	15	3	Nil	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	25
1954.	Nil	2	10	18	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	30
1955.	Nil	1	60	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	65
1956.	Nil	Nil	13	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	17

Measles and Whooping Cough were notifiable from October 1939 only.
 Infective Hepatitis became notifiable in 1943.
 The first Diphtheria Immunisations in the District were completed in 1941.

